



BEACH HAVEN'S ARCHITECTURAL STYLES AND BUILDING TYPES:

Beach Haven's development began in 1874, a time period that was rich in European influence over American architects and builders. However, due to the specific sizes of the 50 x 100 foot lots, the house designs were variations of a rectangular plan. The narrow faces and deep sides have many windows for cross ventilation. After the turn of the

20th century, most of the houses that were constructed in Beach Haven were designs taken from pattern books and plan books. Kit houses, such as those sold by Sears Roebuck & Company also were built in the borough. The various stylistic influences are summarized on the following pages.

NINETEENTH CENTURY STYLES

GOTHIC REVIVAL (1840 – 20TH CENTURY)

By the 1840s, Americans were looking for new ideas in building design. Medieval cathedrals were a natural source of inspiration and were particularly appropriate for churches. However, the style can also be seen in domestic architecture. With the introduction of jigsaws, quite modest houses could enjoy a wealth of medieval details. Often referred to as *Carpenter Gothic* or *Victorian Gothic*, dwellings are characterized by:

- steep gabled roofs
- pointed arch lancet windows
- gingerbread trim
- board and batten siding

One example of a Gothic Revival style house in Beach Haven is at 133 Fifth Street.



133 Fifth Street

ITALIANATE (1840 - 1885)

Renaissance Europe was another source of inspiration for builders and architects in the last decades of the 19th century. The palaces of royalty, merchants, and bankers provided an ideal architectural model for the wealthy beneficiaries of America's booming industrial might. Houses built in the Italianate style are characterized by:

- balanced compositions
- low pitched roofs
- overhanging eaves with heavy brackets
- rounded or segmental arches
- window and door crowns or hoods
- square towers and cupolas



111 Coral Street

SECOND EMPIRE (1860-1875)

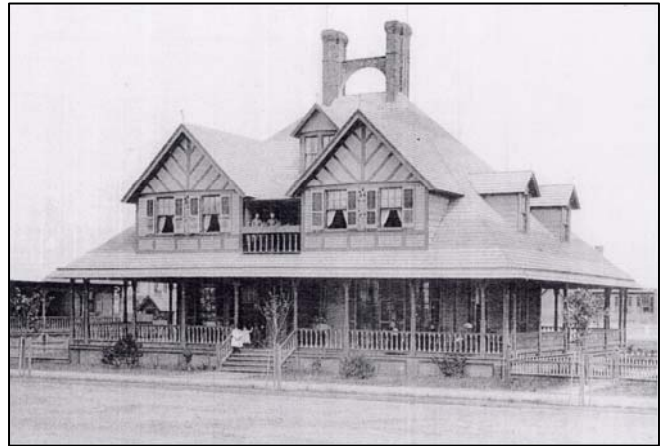
After the Civil War, houses took on a French flavor with the addition of the mansard roof. Developed earlier in the 17th century by French architect Francois Mansart, mansard roofs became popular in Paris during the reign of Napoleon III (1852-1870). The fashion spread to England and the United States. Similar in form and detail to Italianate houses, the Second Empire style is defined by the top story's steeply pitched concave, convex, or straight roofline. One of the most prominent examples of the Second Empire style in Beach Haven is the Saint Rita Hotel pictured right in this postcard view from the 1940s.



127 Engleside Avenue

STICK STYLE (1870-1890)

A variation of the Carpenter Gothic, the Stick Style is also a revival of European rustic country architecture, for example, the gingerbread-ornamented chalets of the Alps and the half-timbered cottages of Tudor England. A Stick style building is highlighted by functional looking decorative "stick work" that suggests the interior structural components of house construction and of half-timbered houses. Unlike true half-timbering, the stickwork is merely applied decoration and has no structural relation to the underlying balloon-frame construction. 123 Coral Street is a very good Beach Haven example of Stick Style.



123 Coral Street

QUEEN ANNE (1880-1910)

The eclectic Queen Anne Style was popular in the last two decades of the 19th century. Queen Anne characteristics include:

- asymmetrical compositions
- turrets
- bay windows
- wrap-around porches
- a variety of surface textures

Typically found on large lots in suburban settings, there are also great examples found in Beach Haven. The house at 125 Engleside Avenue pictured here displays several Queen Anne style characteristics including a variety of exterior textures and framed windows.



125 Engleside Avenue

SHINGLE STYLE (1880-1910)

This American style, closely associated with resort and shore cottages became popular as the 19th century turned to the 20th century.

This style's characteristics include:

- a composition of geometric order
- a continuity of surface expressed best with a sheathing of wood shingles
- pitched gables creating a roof covering volumetric expanses more horizontal than vertical

The house at 117 Engleside Avenue is a very good example of the Shingle style in Beach Haven.



117 Engleside Avenue

TWENTIETH CENTURY STYLES & BUILDING TYPES

CRAFTSMAN (1905 - 1930)

The Craftsman style is an American interpretation of the English Arts and Crafts movement spearheaded by Gustav Stickley. Stickley designed houses and published the plans in his magazine "The Craftsman." The well-built houses were inspired by common buildings of the American vernacular landscape. Common characteristics of a Craftsman-era house include:

- the use of local materials that emphasize the builders' skills
- architectural simplicity and structural honesty

A good example of a Craftsman style house is located at 110 North Atlantic Avenue.



110 North Atlantic Avenue

COLONIAL REVIVAL (1880-1950)

The 1876 Centennial of the United States produced an intense interest in colonial American housing. In the 1880 and 1890s, houses were built that were virtually identical in form and massing to earlier Georgian and Federal era dwellings. Characteristics included:

- side gable roofs
- symmetrical and balanced facades with flat undecorated wall surfaces
- Palladian windows
- ornamental details around the front door

The house at 500 South Beach Avenue is a good example of Colonial Revival style architecture.



500 South Beach Avenue

PLANBOOK AND KIT HOUSES (1900 - 1950)

In the early twentieth century, large numbers of modest-sized houses were built in towns across the country. This affordable house movement was a reaction to the excesses of house building during the previous century. Many architects designed plans that were widely advertised in the national trade and home magazines and sold in planbooks. For example, the architectural survey revealed that the cottages at 809 S. Beach Avenue; 113, 120, 215 Fourth Street; and 123, 210, and 220 Fifth Street were all built from the same set of plans. Also companies such as Sears, Roebuck & Company, Alladin, and Radford Architectural Company manufactured kit houses.

Building types included bungalows, Foursquares, cottages, Cape Cods, and Ranches. Many good examples of these building types can be found in the Greater Beach Haven Historic District, some of which are pictured below. Bungalows are typically one and one-half story in height and have a porch incorporated into the façade. Foursquares are cubic in form and have a characteristic pyramidal roof, often, but not always with a dormer in front. Small Cape Cod and Ranch houses evoke the simple dwellings erected by the earliest colonialists and they became very popular in the post-WWII decades.



Cape Cod at 220 Berkeley Avenue



Bungalow at 1001 South Beach Ave.



Foursquare at 217 Norwood Avenue



Sears, Roebuck & Co. kit house (Dutch Colonial Revival) 200 Berkeley Avenue

This architectural diversity shows that Beach Haven adapted to building trends and accommodated the new and the old side by side. The various styles are expressed in the details and the different expressions from each time period are important to preserve.